



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Satoshi SHINADA, et al.

Appln. No. 09/437,246

Group Art Unit: 2861

Confirmation No.: 7699

Examiner: NGHIEM, M.

Filed: November 10, 1999

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of the corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing

MATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT U.S. Appln. No. 09/437,246 ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q56708

concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 39,234

Kell G. Hondman

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037-3213

Telephone: (202) 293-7060 Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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Date: February 22, 2002

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STATEMENT	BEAPPLICANT

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First Named Inventor Satoshi SHINADA.

Art Unit 2861

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1 of 1 Attorney Docket Number Q56708	Sheet 1 of 1 Attorney Docket Number C	1	Sheet

			U.S. 1	PATENT DOCU	MENTS
Exáminer Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number		Publication Date	4 6 1 1 5
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		US 5,603,577		02-18-1997	Suzuki et al.
		US 5,732,751		03-31-1998	Schmidt et al.
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	Cite	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Translation ⁶
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